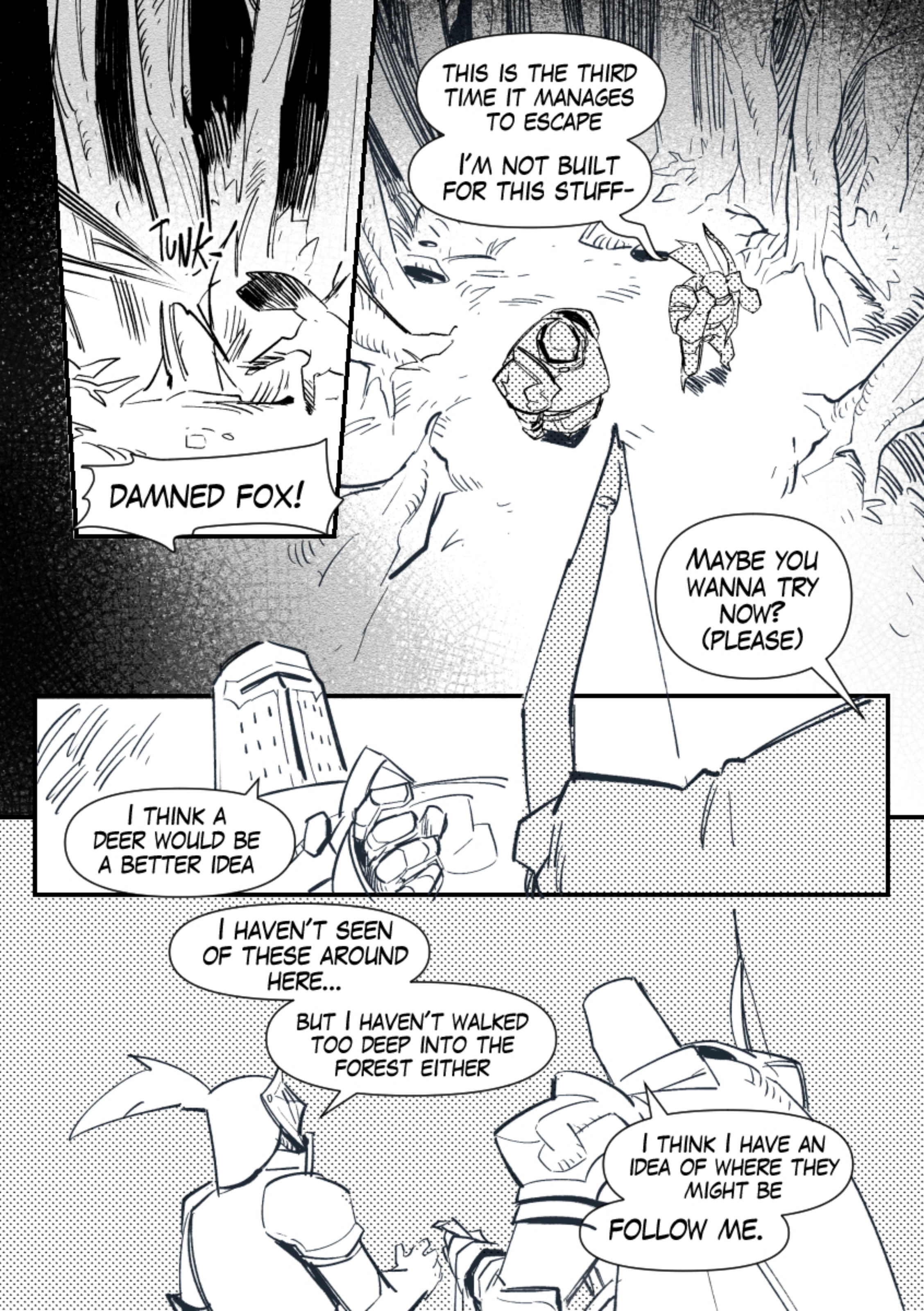


BOND BY FIRE

Chapter 10: Like old times



Caterina P Droguett



THIS IS THE THIRD
TIME IT MANAGES
TO ESCAPE

I'M NOT BUILT
FOR THIS STUFF-

TUNK-!

DAMNED FOX!

MAYBE YOU
WANNA TRY
NOW?
(PLEASE)

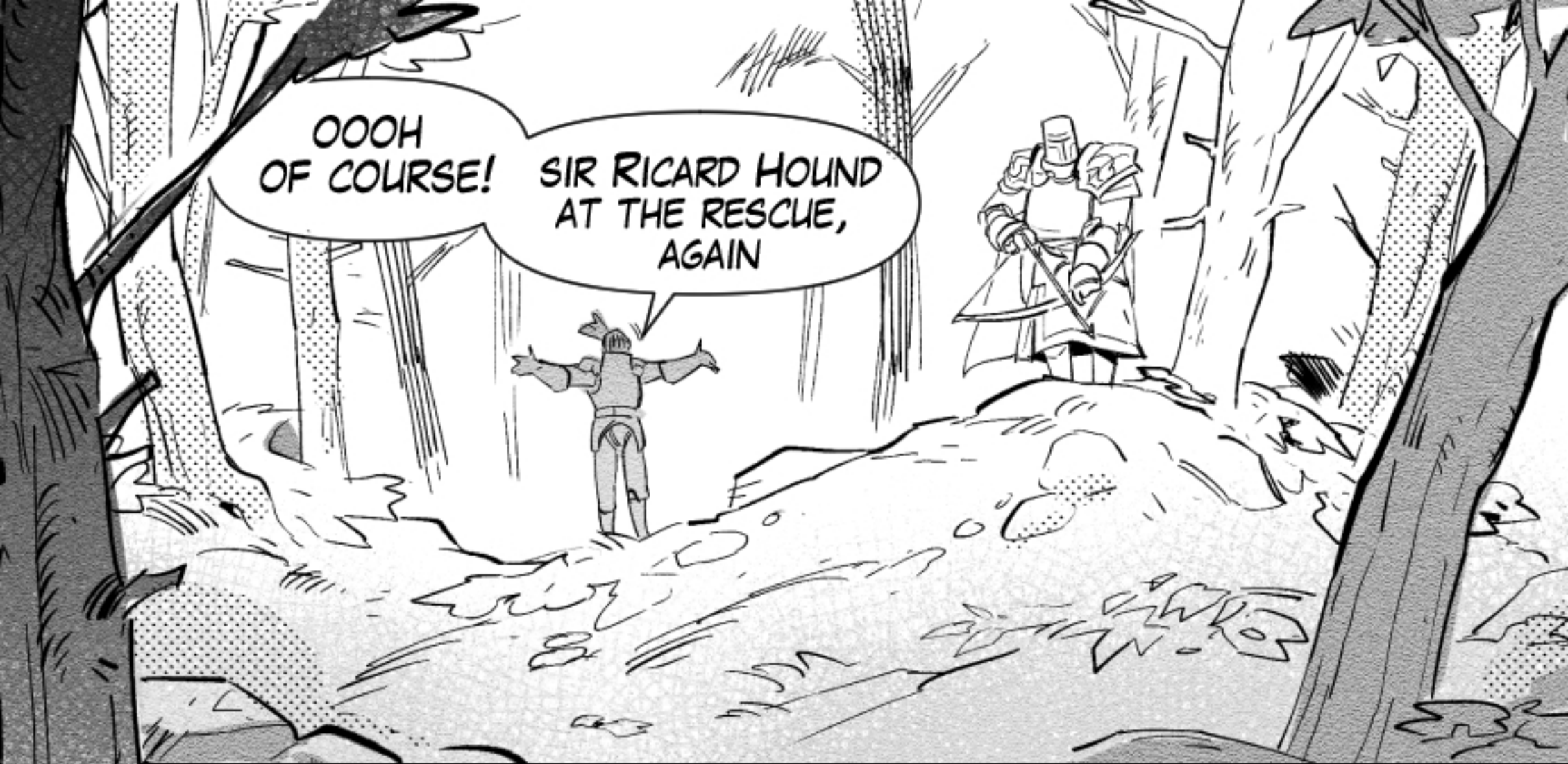
I THINK A
DEER WOULD BE
A BETTER IDEA

I HAVEN'T SEEN
OF THESE AROUND
HERE...

BUT I HAVEN'T WALKED
TOO DEEP INTO THE
FOREST EITHER

I THINK I HAVE AN
IDEA OF WHERE THEY
MIGHT BE

FOLLOW ME.



OOOH
OF COURSE!

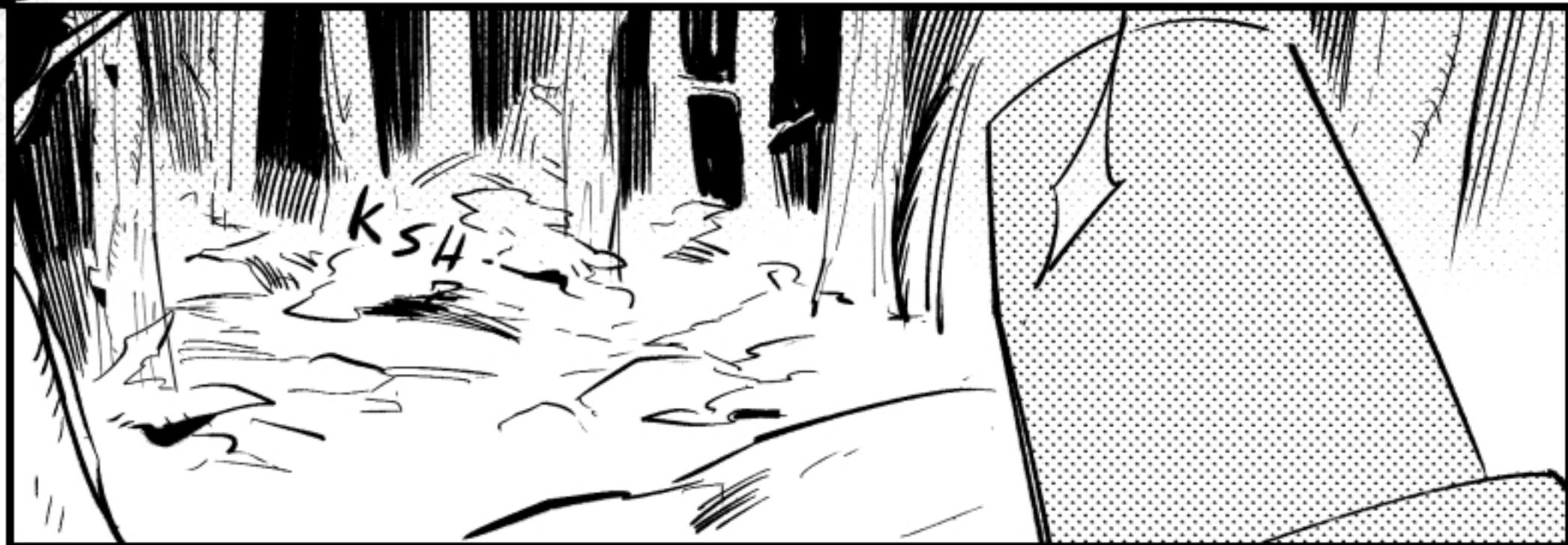
SIR RICARD HOUND
AT THE RESCUE,
AGAIN



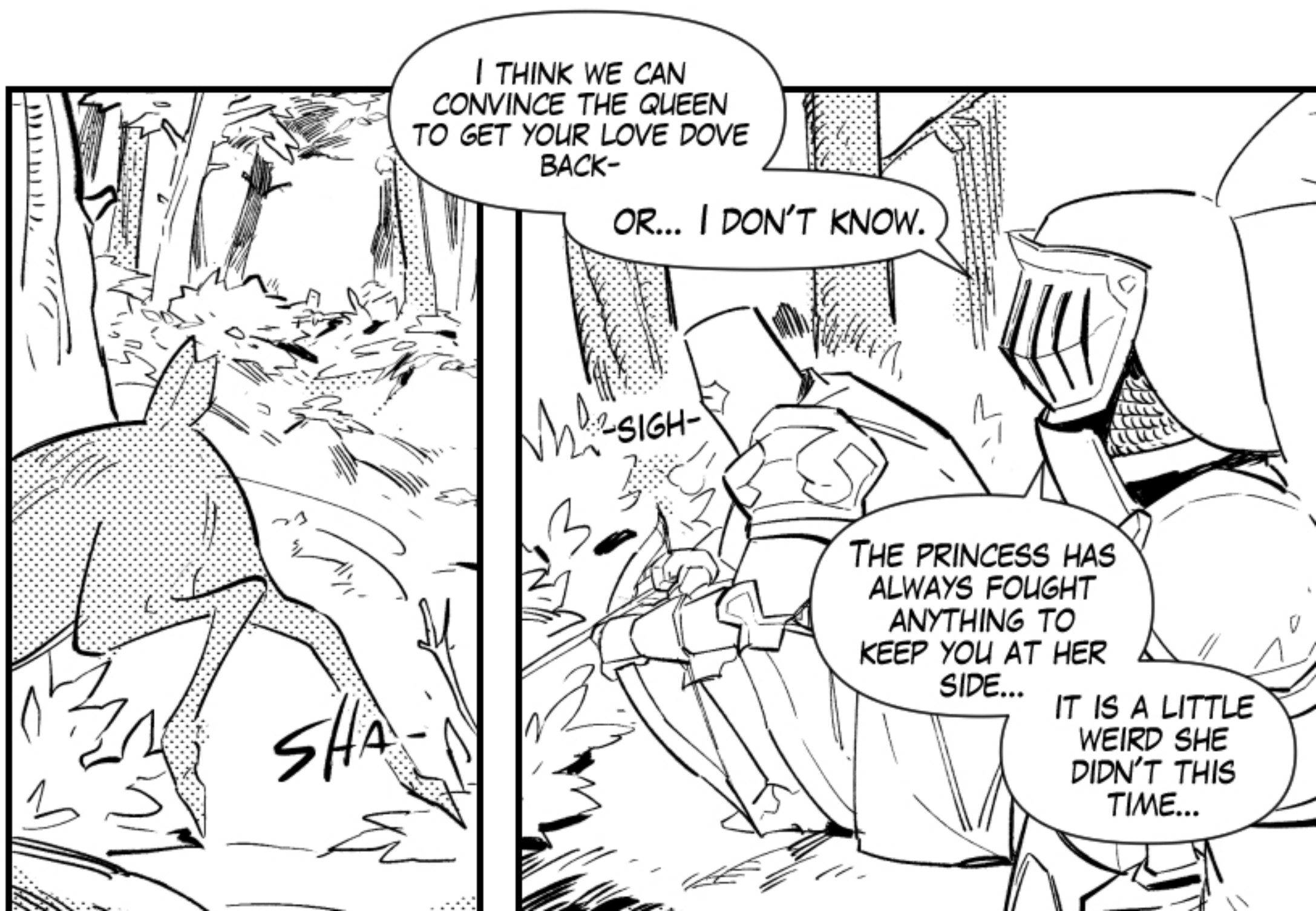
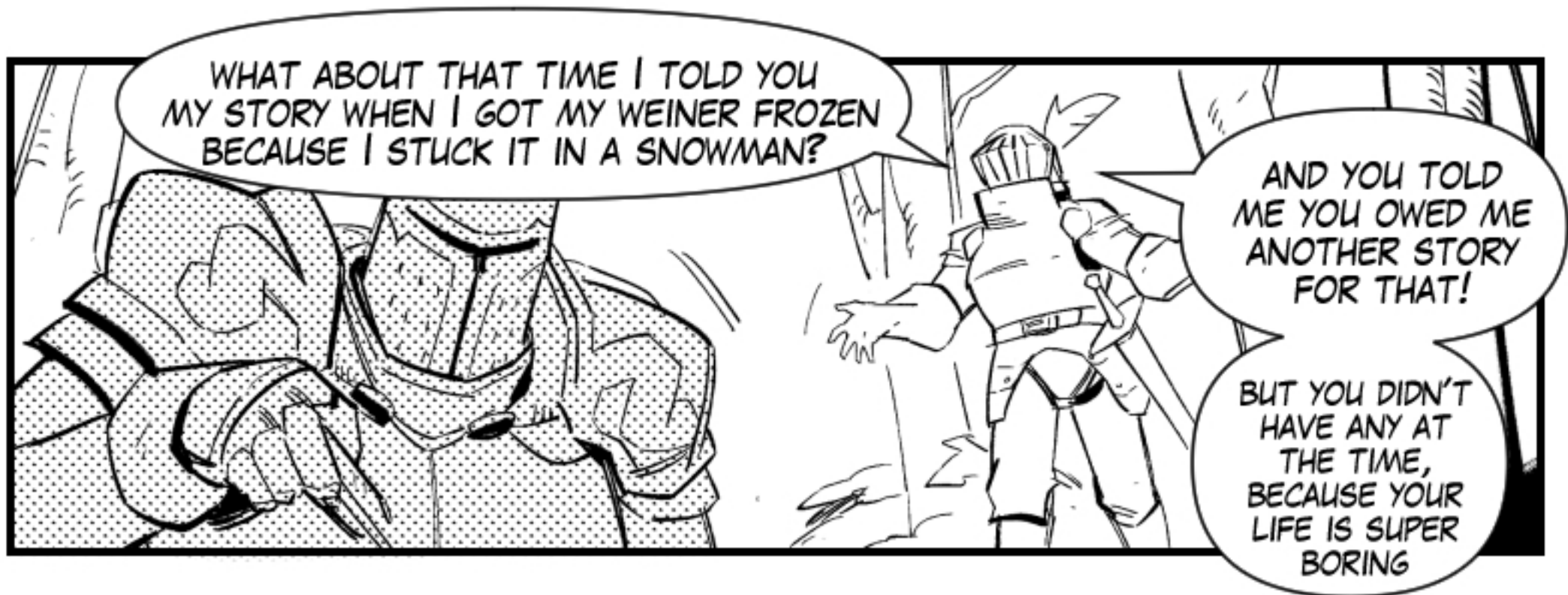
ARE YOU REALLY
GOING TO STAY SILENT
LIKE THAT?

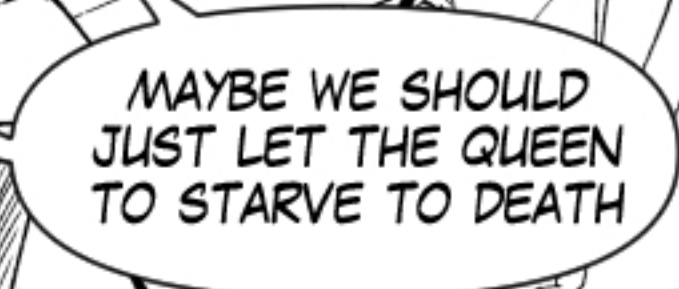
YOU DISAPPEAR WITH
THE PRINCESS FOR
DAYS-

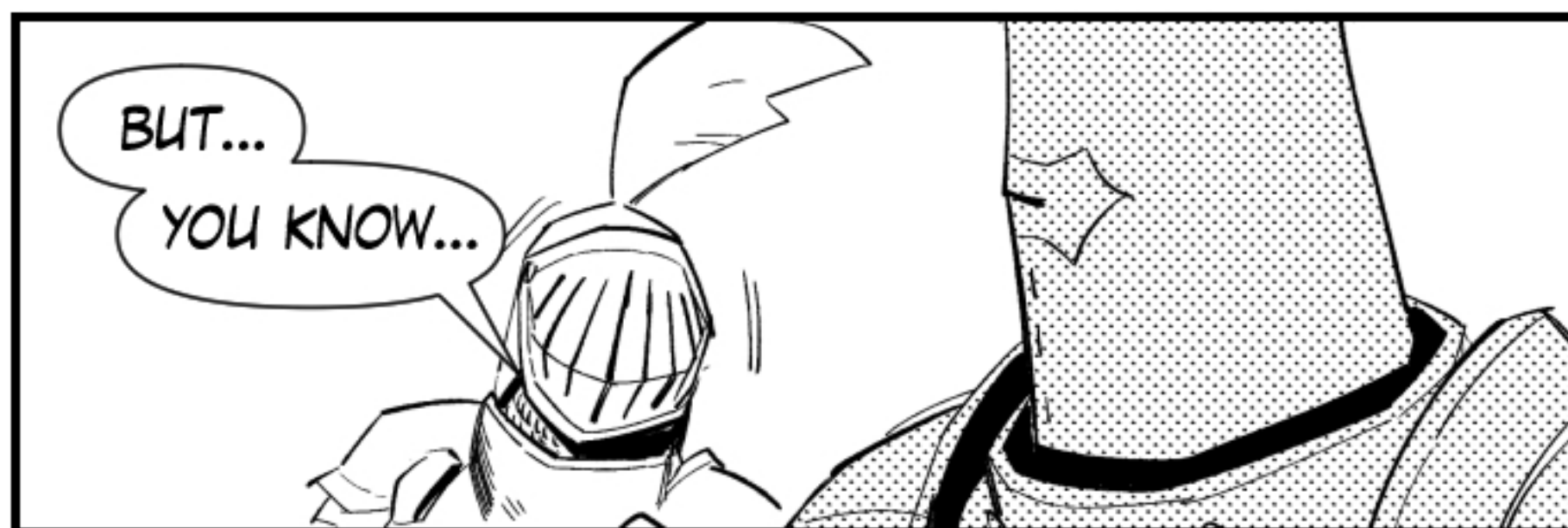
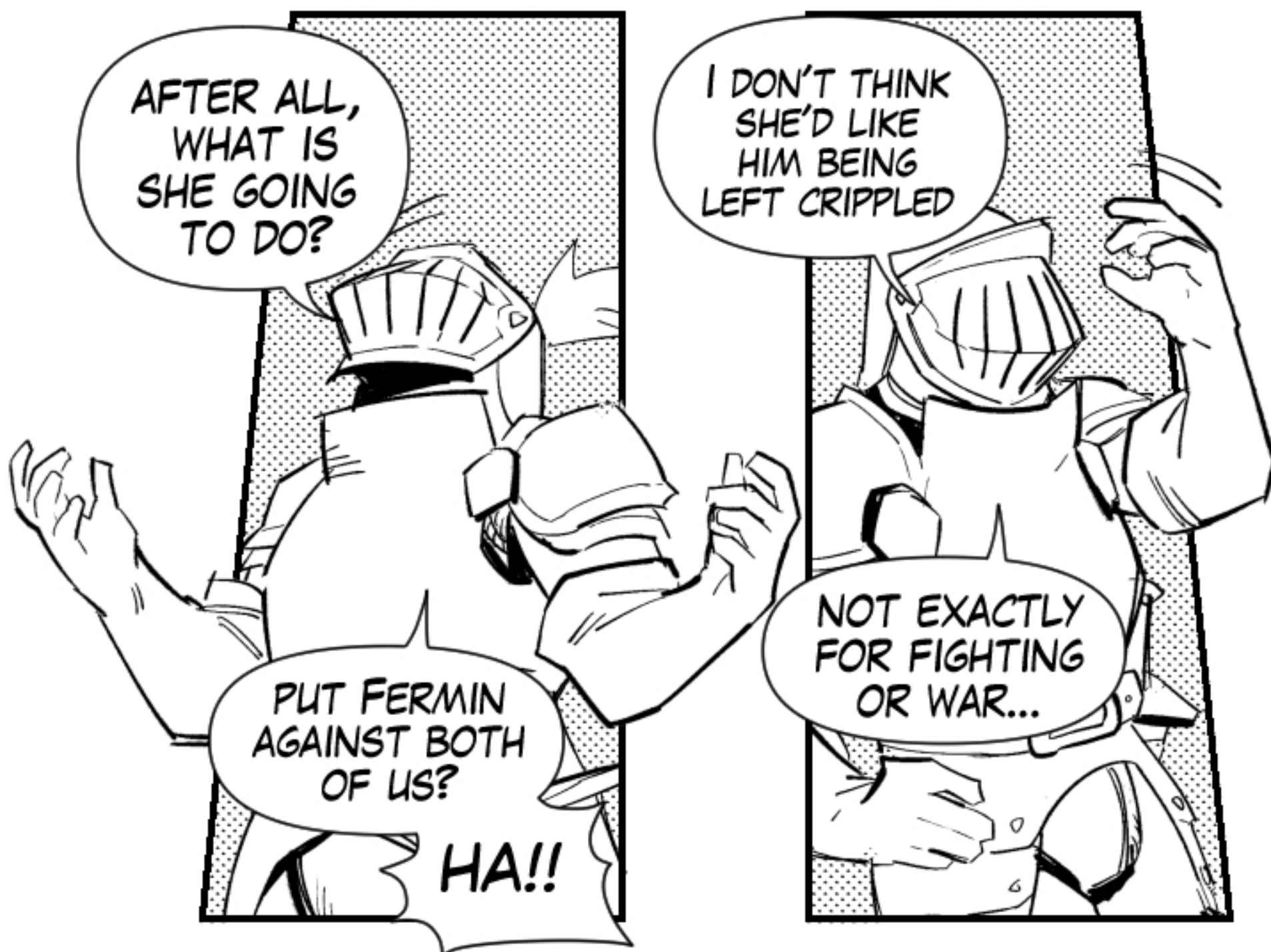
AND NOW YOU
WON'T TELL ME
ANYTHING??

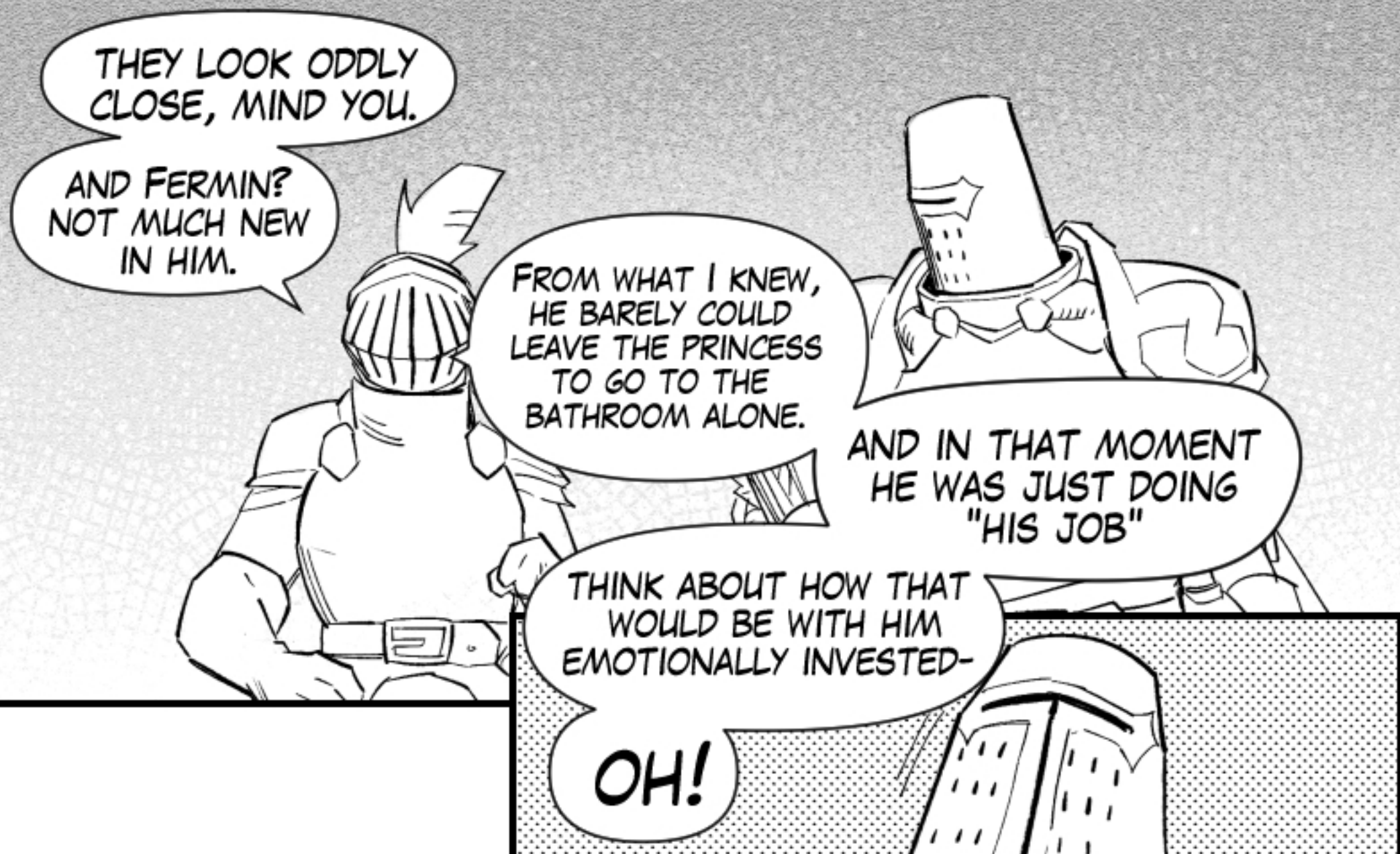
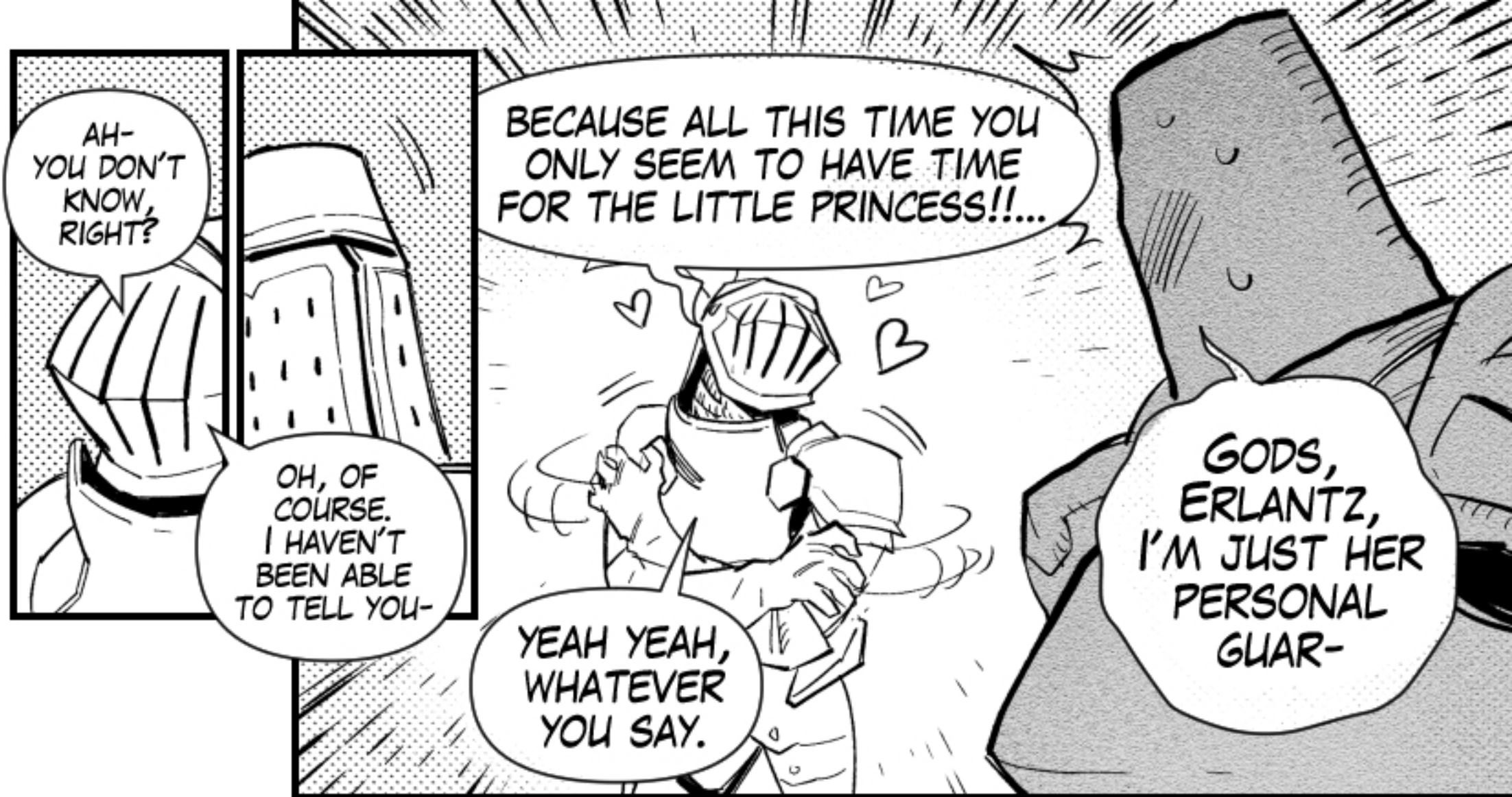


KSH

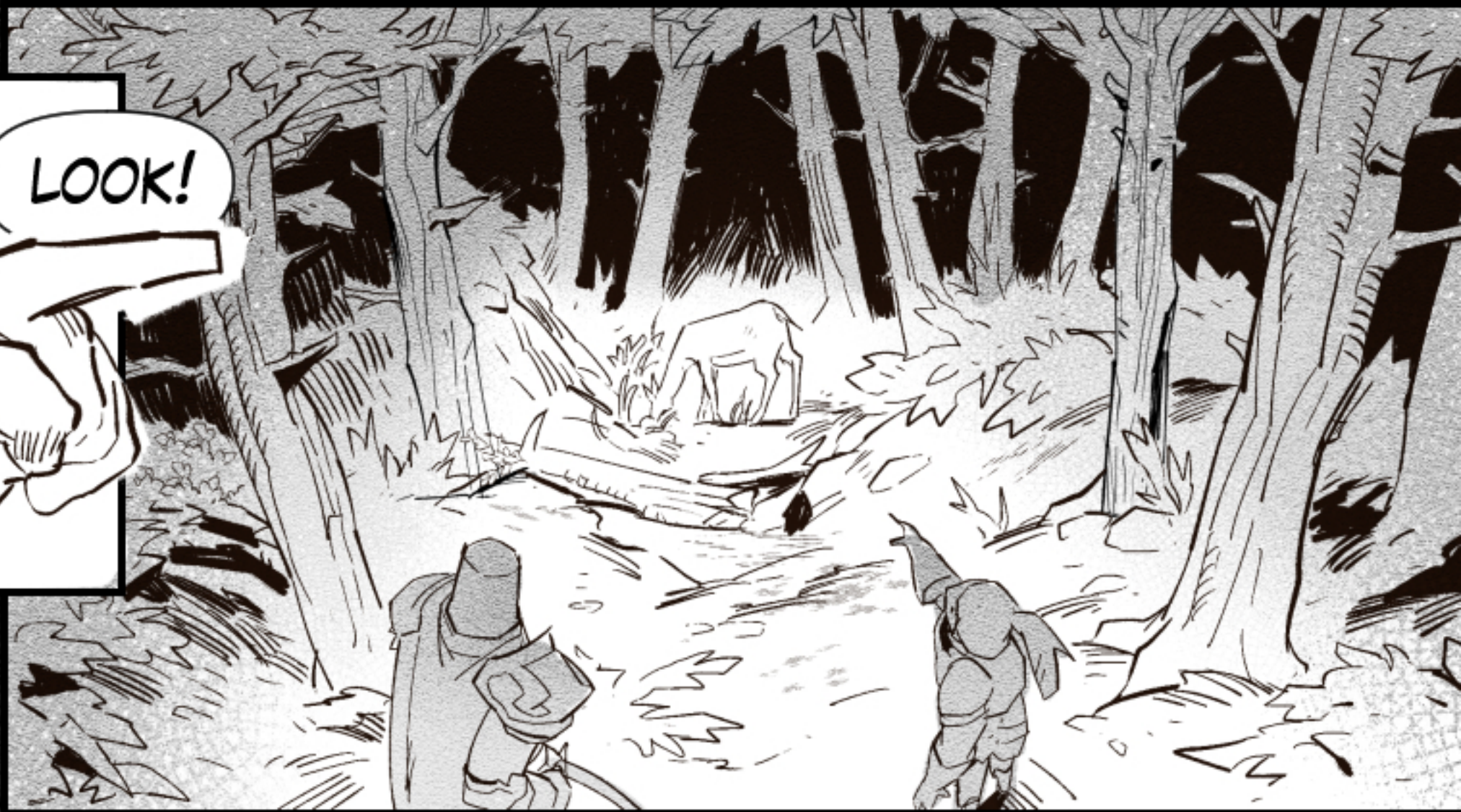








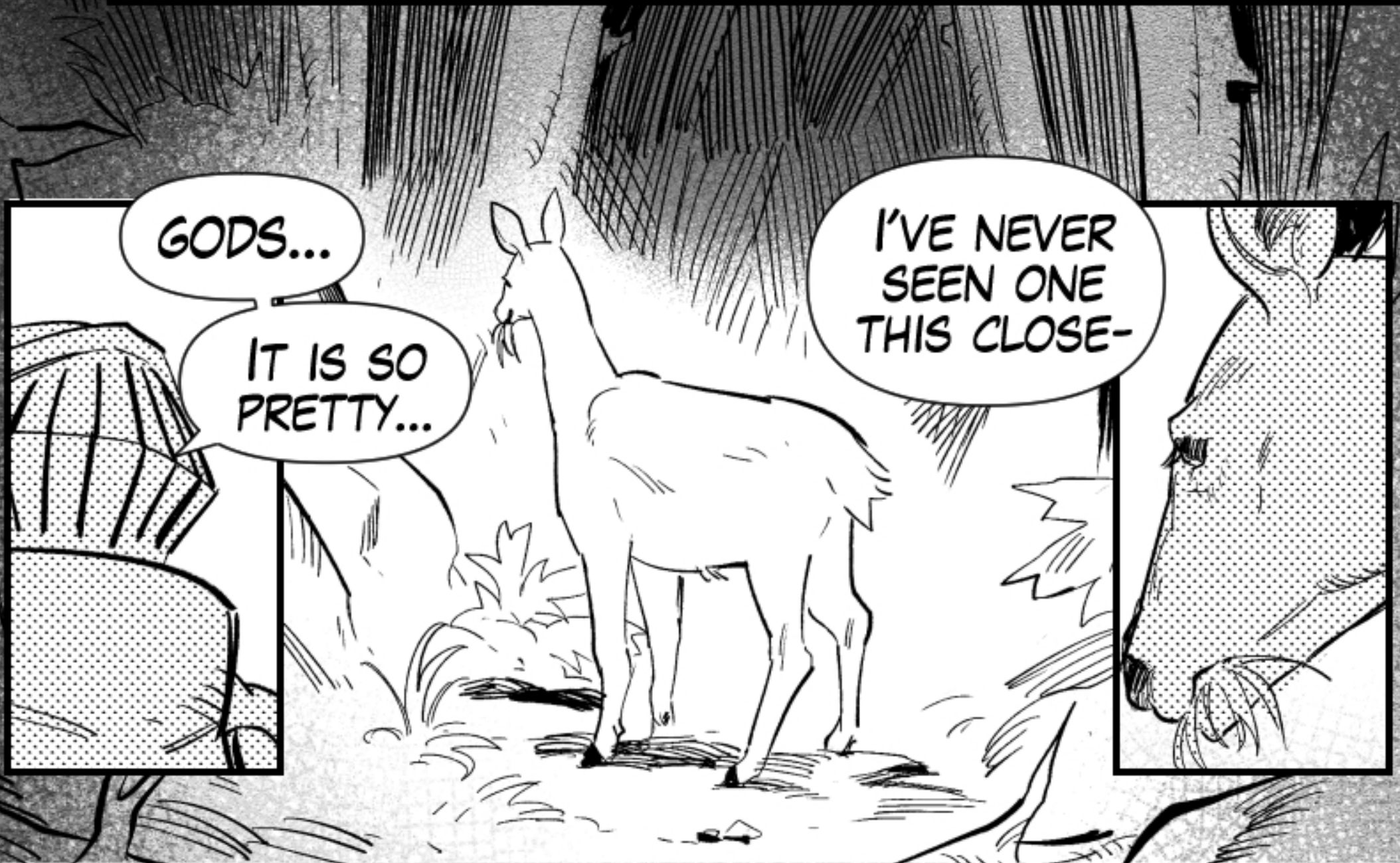
LOOK!

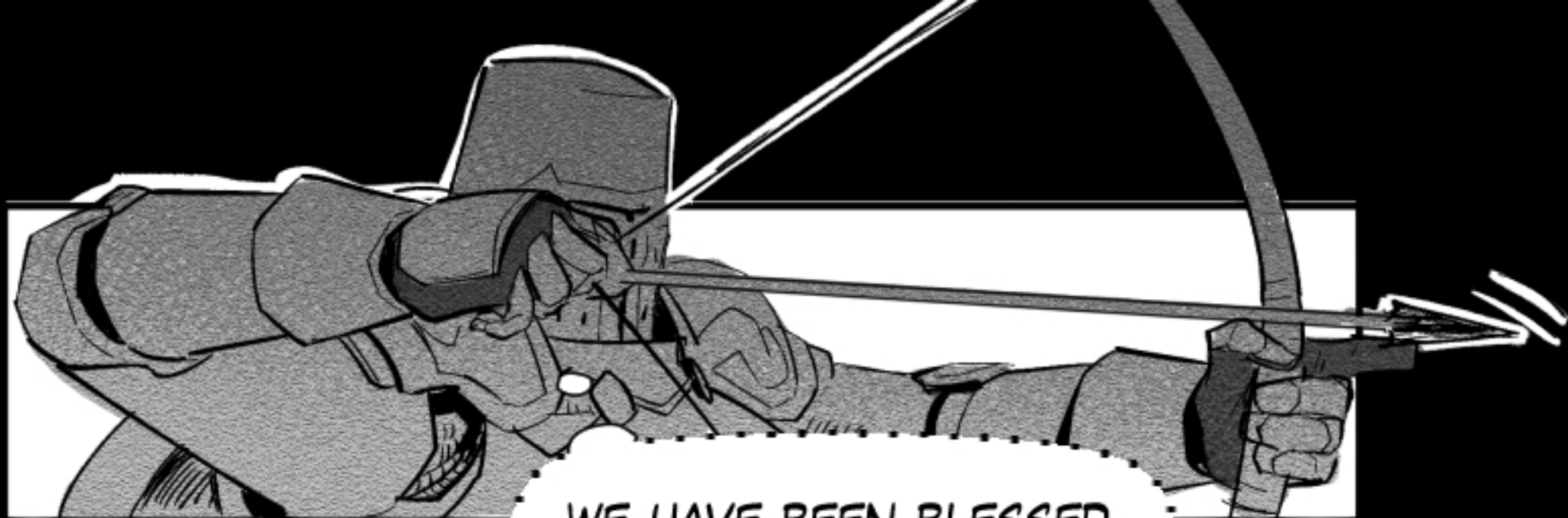


GODS...

IT IS SO
PRETTY...

I'VE NEVER
SEEN ONE
THIS CLOSE-





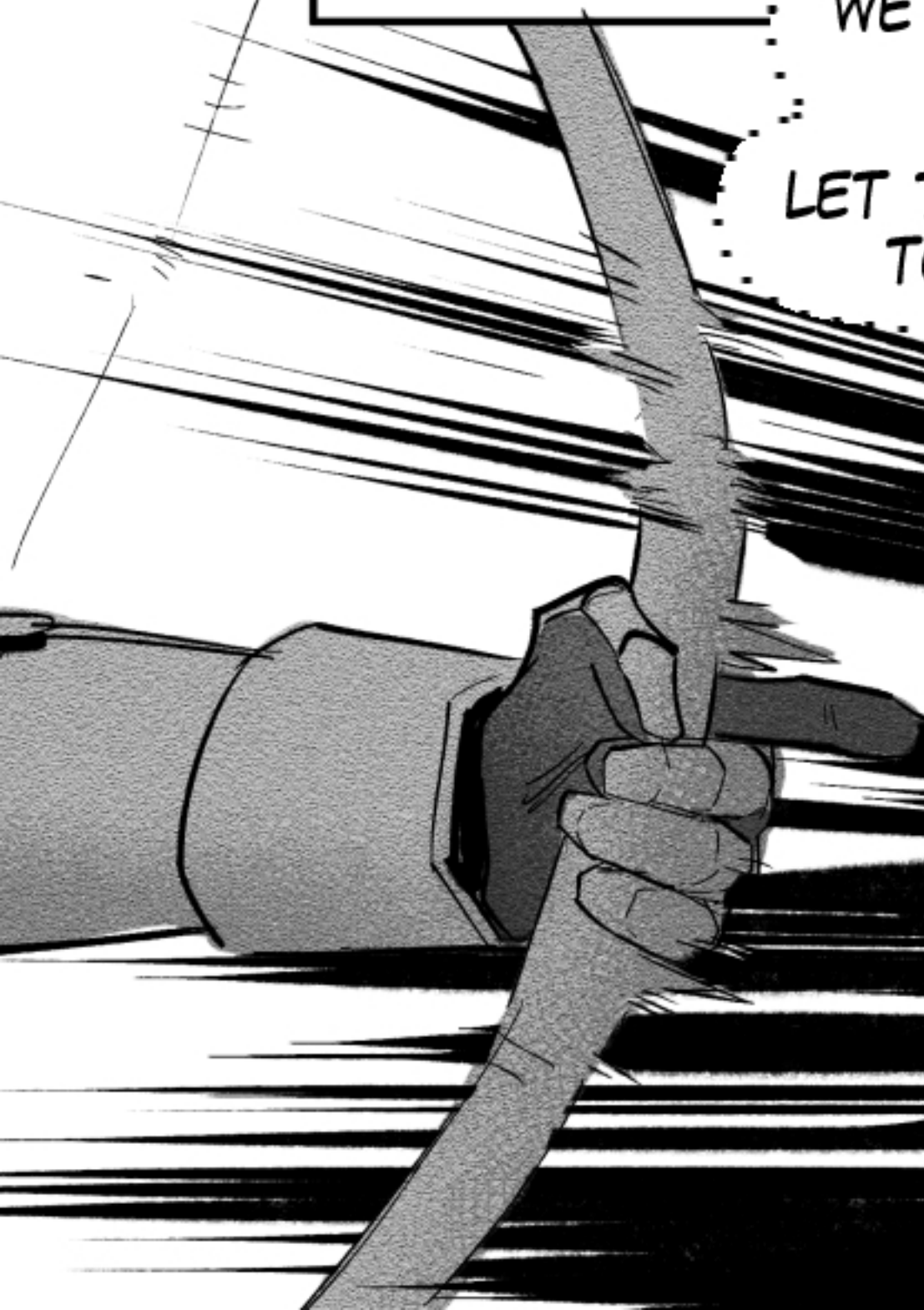
WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED
WITH THIS BEAUTIFUL DEER

FOR US TO NURTURE
OURSELVES AND
LIVE ANOTHER DAY



WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE THIS
GIFT OF THE GODS.

LET THEIR SOUL RETURN
TO THE HEAVENS.





THAT'S IRONIC.

HUH?

WHAT YOU WERE
TELLING ME

OH,
RIGHT.

I'D PREFER GETTING
STRUCK BY LIGHTING,

THAN FINDING FERMIN
AGAIN LOOKING AT THE
QUEEN WHEN SHE SLEEPS-

WHAT?!

THAT'S DISTURBING ENOUGH.

I WOKE UP TO TAKE A
PISS IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE NIGHT

AND I SEE
FERMIN, JUST
STANDING
THERE LOOKING
THROUGH
THE CABIN'S
WINDOW



FERMIN,
WHAT IN HELL
ARE YOU DOING?

AND HE COMES
WITH A HORSESHIT
RESPONSE LIKE

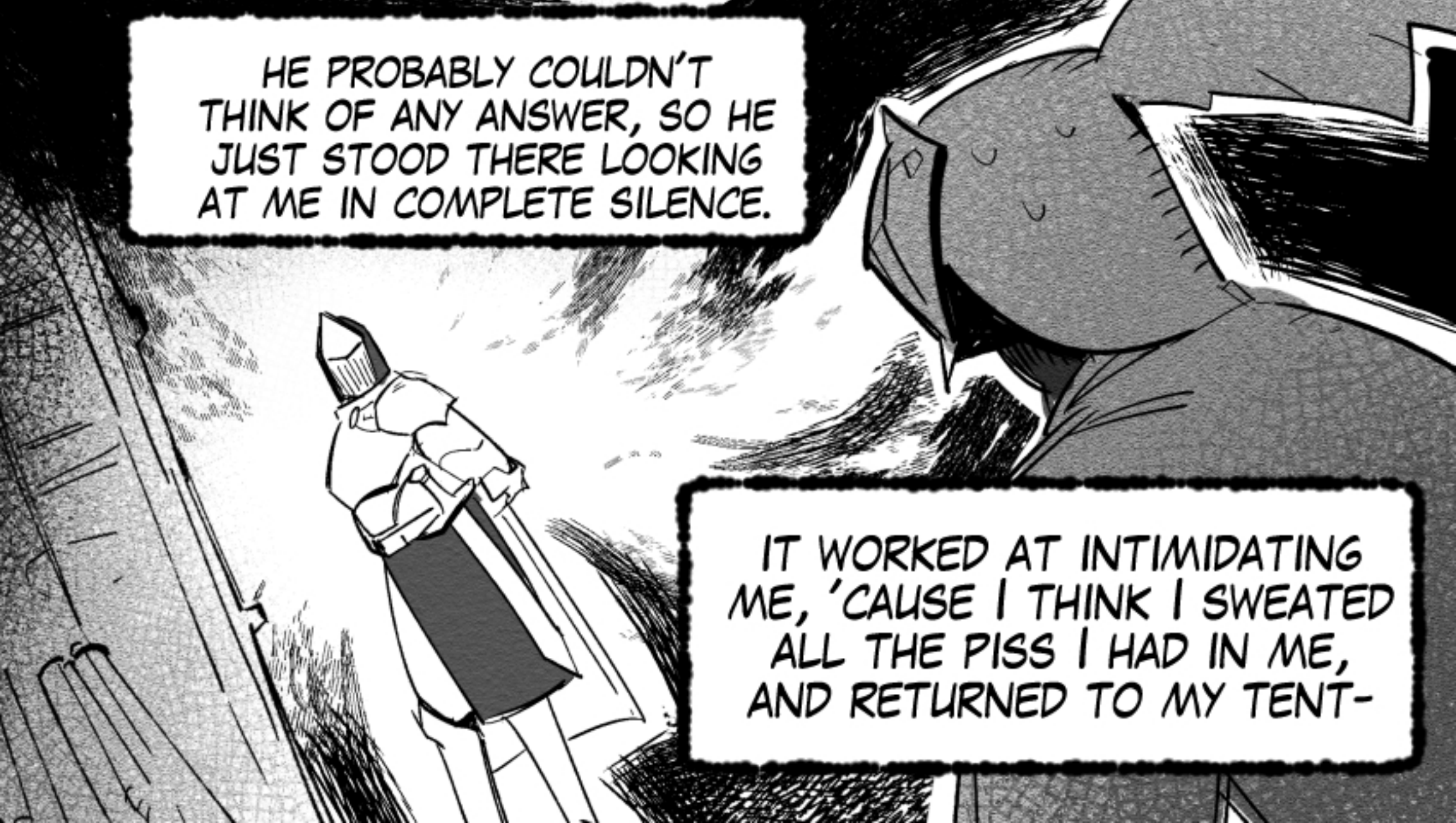
YOU HAVE TO MAKE ROUNDS,
FERMIN, NOT JUST STAND
THERE LOOKING AT HER!



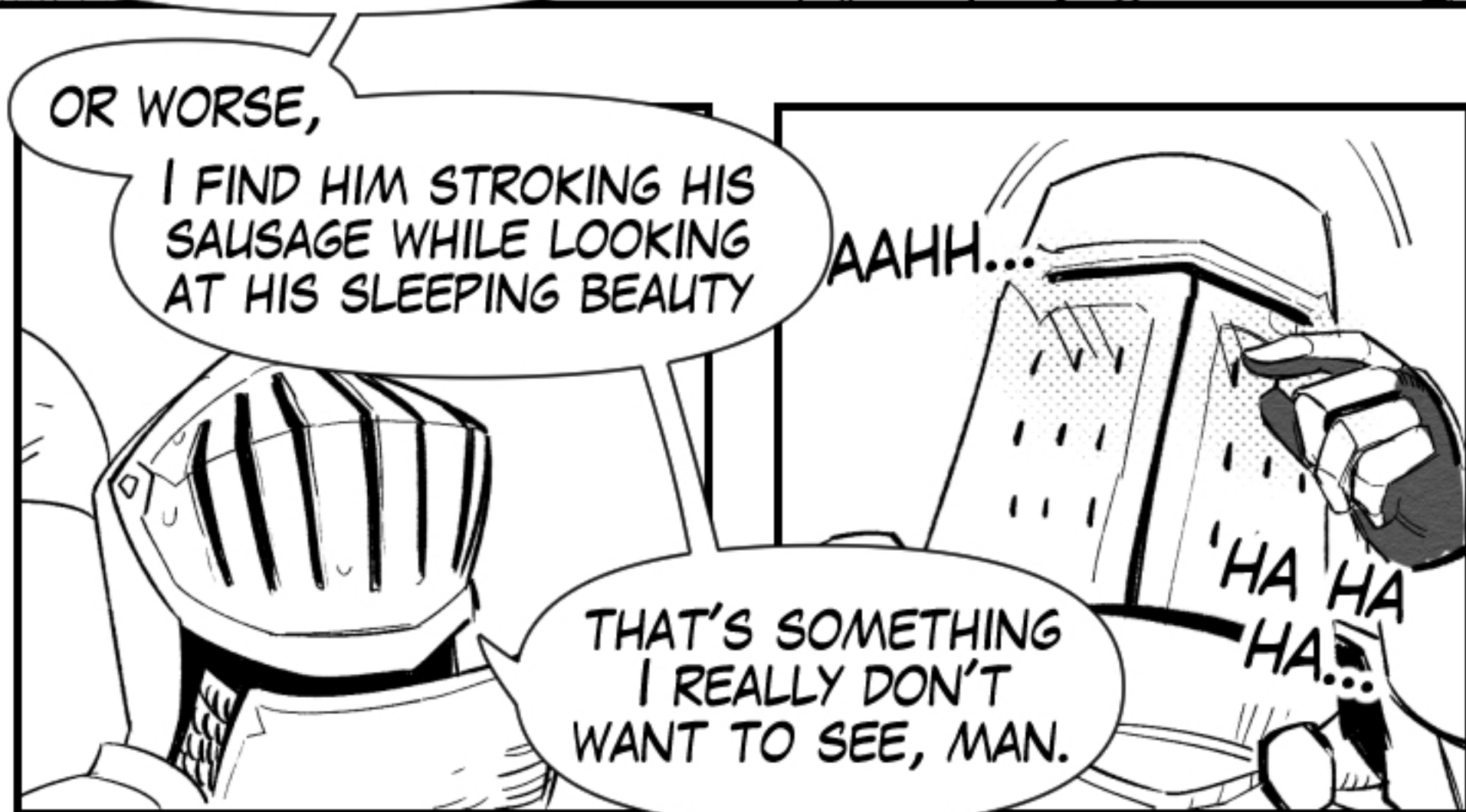
I'M LOOKING
AFTER THE QUEEN

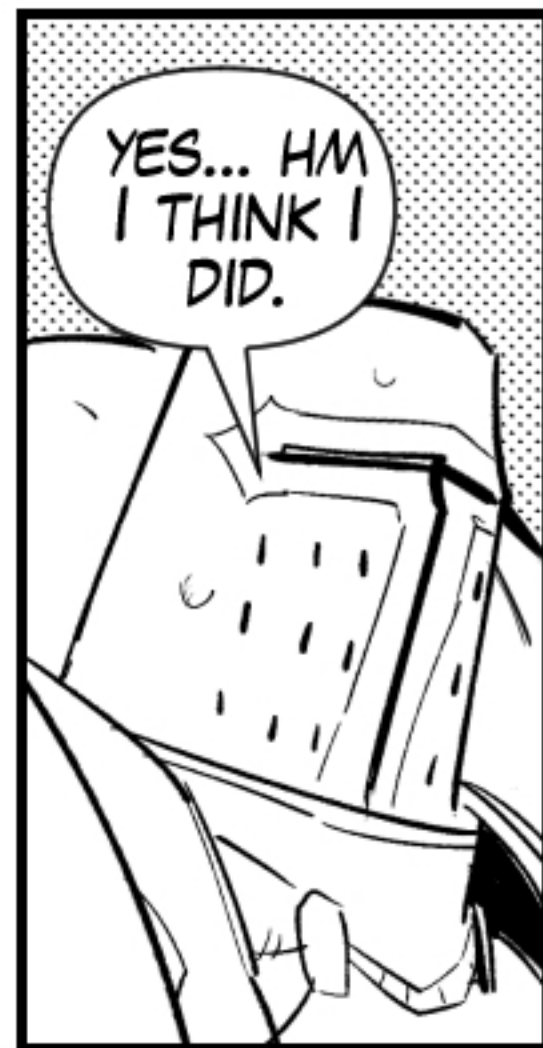
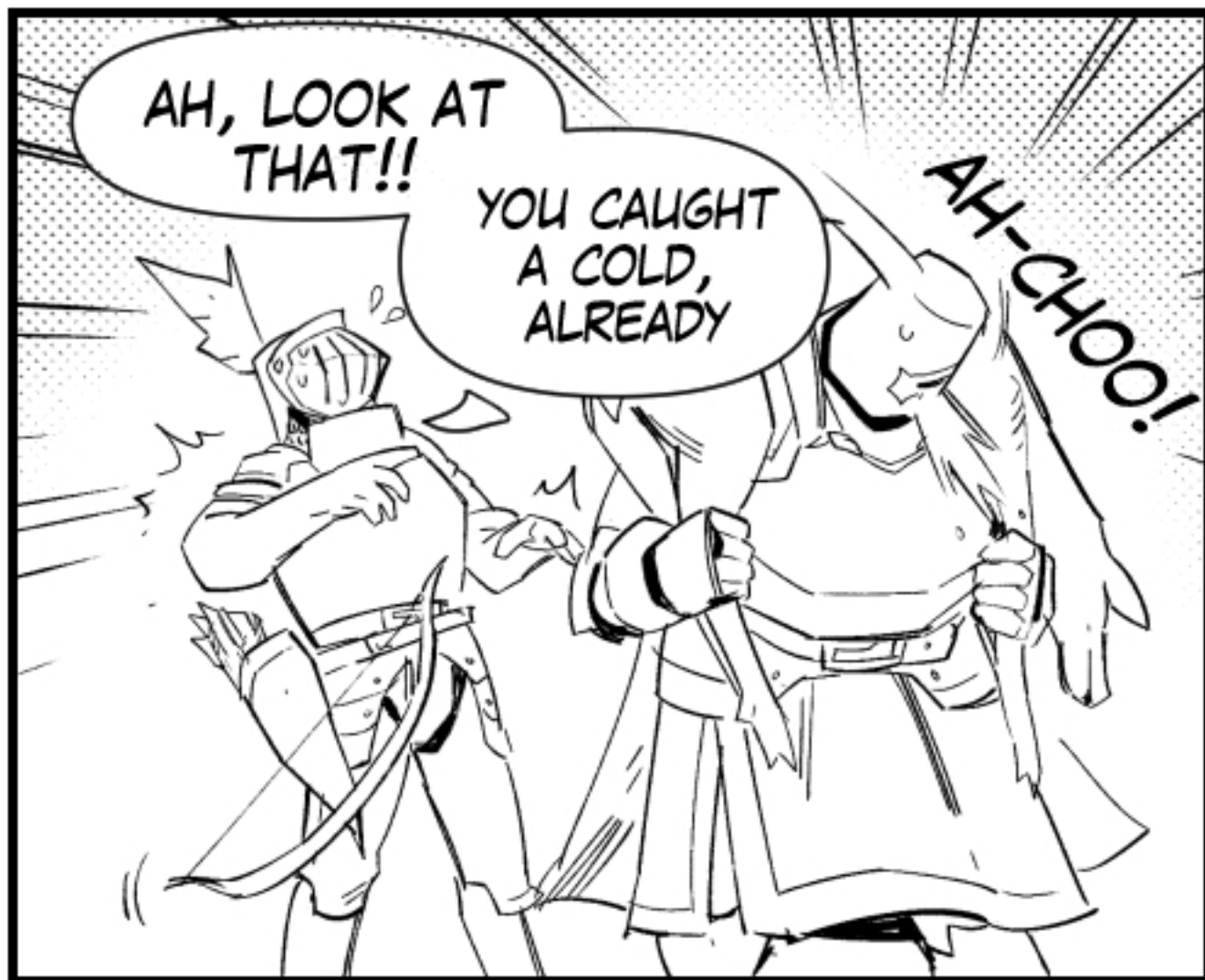
THAT'S
CREEPY-

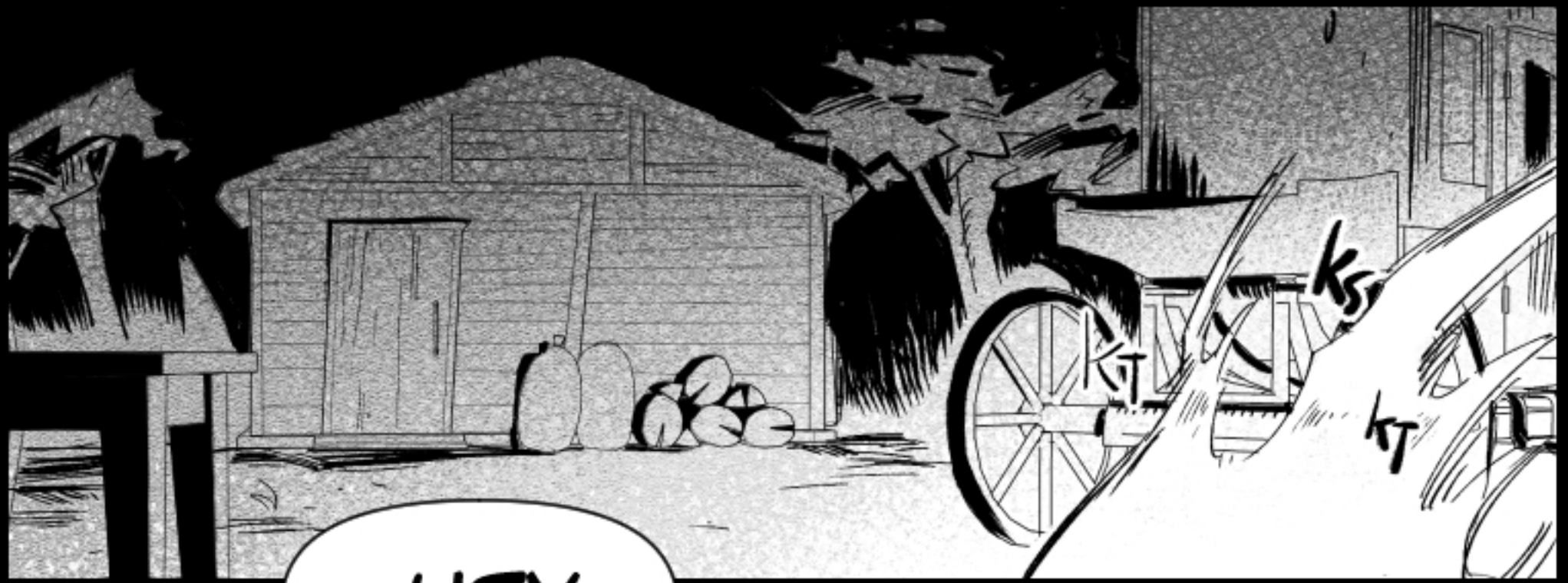
HE PROBABLY COULDN'T
THINK OF ANY ANSWER, SO HE
JUST STOOD THERE LOOKING
AT ME IN COMPLETE SILENCE.



IT WORKED AT INTIMIDATING
ME, 'CAUSE I THINK I SWEATED
ALL THE PISS I HAD IN ME,
AND RETURNED TO MY TENT-







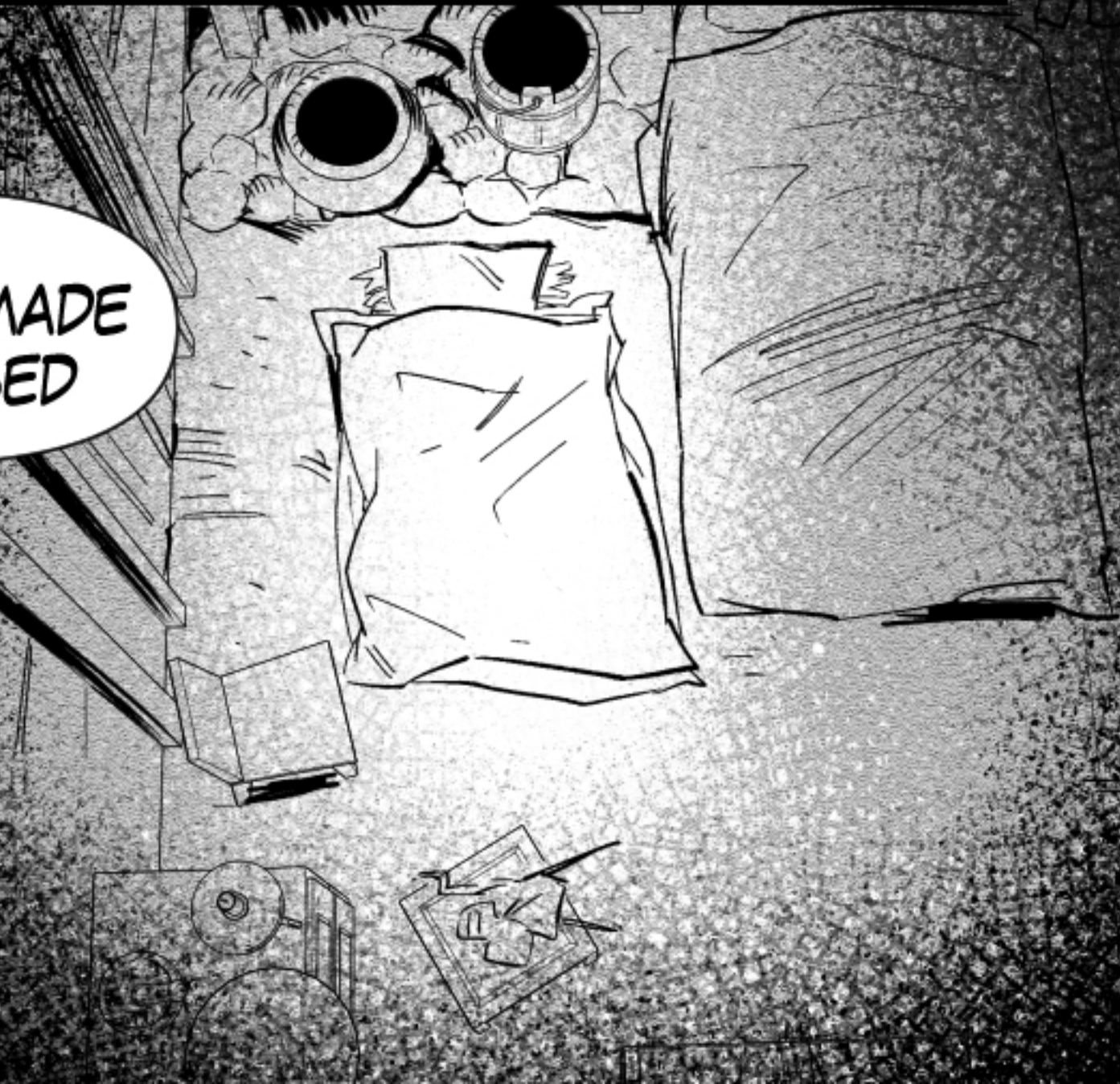
HEY

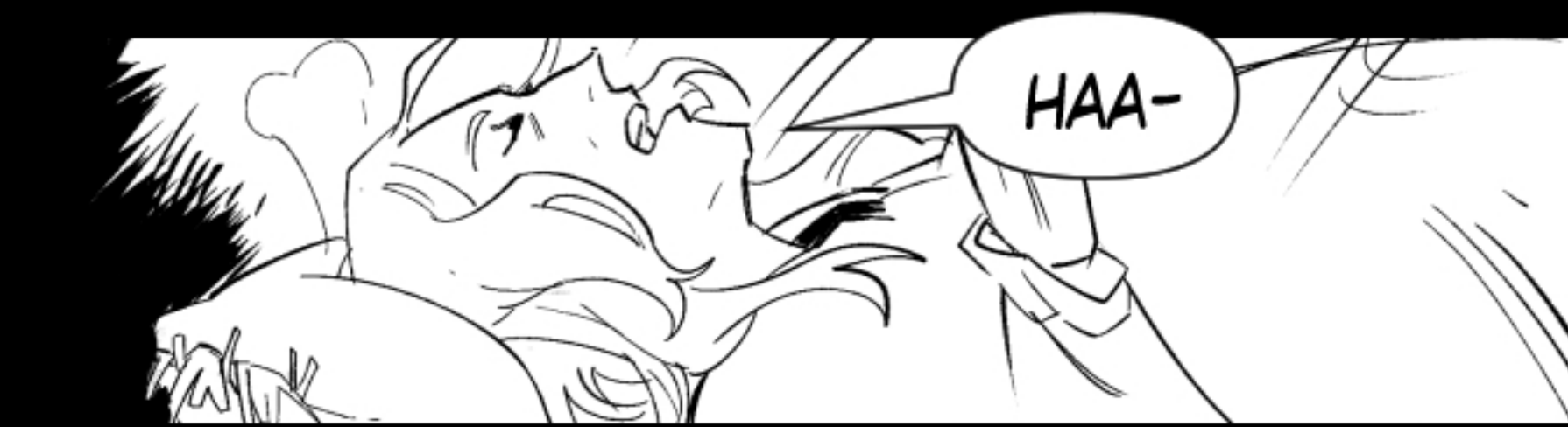


OUT, NOW



FERMIN MADE
YOU A BED







WHAT'S THE PLAN?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



WE AREN'T STAYING HERE FOREVER, RIGHT?

OH, RIGHT.

WE WERE JUST HAVING A REST

ALSO EXPLORING OUR SURROUNDINGS
LOOKING FOR YOU

THAT IS DONE, THOUGH.

WE'RE PLANNING ON GOING TO THE MOUNTEER'S HOUSE



WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ON GOOD TERMS WITH THEM.

THEY ARE OUR BEST ALLIANCE.



WE HAVE AT LEAST
FOUR DAYS GOING TO
THE EAST

IT WOULD BE BETTER
TO DEPART SOON,
NOW YOU'RE HERE

HOW... DO WE KNOW
THEIR KINGDOM ISN'T
ALSO IN RUINS?

THEY ARE NOT
PART OF THE CHAIN
OF REIGNS WHO DECIDED
TO FORM PART OF THE
CREATION OF THE ASH MEN
THEY DECIDED TO NOT
PARTAKE IN IT.

DUE TO THIS, THEY
ARE NOT CLOSE TO
ANY ASH MEN KILNS,
CONTRARY TO US

HAVING THESE FURNACES
SO CLOSE TO US, MADE US
SO VULNERABLE TO THIS
DEMONICD EXPLOSION THEY HAD

WHICH MEANS THEY COULD
STILL ALIVE AND WELL, EVEN
UNBOTHERED.

OH, SURE.

LET ME
EXPLAIN



DO YOU THINK
PRINCE MIKEL
MIGHT STILL
HATE ME?

PROBABLY...

BUT I'VE KNOWN, FROM THE KING HIMSELF,
THAT PRINCE MIKEL HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO
CONTRACT MARRIAGE EITHER, DUE TO
A SERIES OF MISFORTUNES...

MAYBE YOU ARE
REALLY DESTINED
TO MARRY HIM-

HO-
WHO WOULD
HAVE THOUGHT





AREN'T I...



HOW OLD WERE YOU, 17?

20...

TOO OLD FOR PRINCE MIKEL?

20!!!

ALMIGHTY GODS!!



WELL...
AT LEAST YOUR GIFT
WILL KEEP YOU RELEVANT
LONGER THAN THE
COMMON WOMAN.

IT'S NOTHING MINOR...
AFTER ALL

OH... I JUST REALIZED
SOMETHING...

I GUESS THAT'S
WHAT THEY MEANT...



HUH?



THAT PROPHECY...

WHEN YOU WERE AROUND
5 YEARS OLD, WE WERE VISITED
BY THREE STRANGE PILGRIMS.

THEY LOOKED
VERY WELL DRESSED,
OSTENTATIOUS.

YET, I NEVER HAD
HEARD OF THEM
BEFORE.

THEY DIDN'T SEEM
TO BELONG TO
ANY HOUSE EITHER

WE JUST KNEW
THEY CAME FROM
AFAR

AND HAD AN
IMPORTANT
MESSAGE TO GIVE

"OUR MESSAGE
IS FOR YOUR
DAUGHTER"

IT WAS FOR YOU.



THEY TOLD US
HOW YOU HAD A
LIGHT FRAGMENT
OF A GOD... WHOSE
NAME I CAN'T
REMEMBER-

AND THAT ONE
DAY, DARKNESS
WOULD HIT THIS
WORLD

AND IT WAS
YOUR DESTINY
TO FIND THEM
AGAIN TO BRING
BACK THE LIGHT

...

IN THE
MIDST OF
DARKNESS...

THIS...MIGHT BE
THE MOMENT,
HEGE.

WHEN WE GET TO
THE MOUNTEER'S CASTLE

THAT WOULD BE A GOOD
MOMENT TO TRY AND GET
IN CONTACT WITH THEM

OR MAYBE THEY'LL
GET TO YOU

B-BUT...

I DIDN'T KNOW
ABOUT THIS
...BEFORE NOW

A-AND I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
THEM...

COULDN'T I
JUST SAY
NO?



GODS!!

HOW ARE YOU
STILL SO
EGOISTIC!?



YOU'RE JUST
LIKE YOUR
FATHER-

"I WANT THIS,
NOT THAT"

WHEN ARE YOU
GOING TO LEARN
YOU DON'T CHOOSE
YOUR DESTINY!

YOU DUMB
BRAT!

YOUR FATHER
DECIDED TO CHALLENGE
HIS DESTINY-



AND YOU KNOW THE
PUNISHMENTS HE
RECIEVED!



WE ARE THE ROYALTY, HEGE.

WE ARE THE MESSENGERS
OF GODS

YOU MUST BEHAVE
PROPERLY, AND
FULFILL OUR
DUTIES!





WELL,
ENOUGH OF
THAT ALREADY



GOOD NIGHT.



MOTHER



ARE YOU
ANGRY AT ME?

ANGRY
WHY?



FOR...
EVERYTHING...



I WILL BE
IF YOU DON'T
LET ME
SLEEP



WELL, YES.

BUT, YOU KNOW.

YOU HAVE DONE SO MANY
FOOLISH AND IMPULSIVE
THINGS IN THIS LIFE OF YOURS

I THINK I'M ALREADY USED TO IT.

THAT'S THAT. NOW
SHUT UP AND SLEEP

...

I'M SORRY, MOTHER.

TRULY-



**GODS,
SHUT UP!!!**

